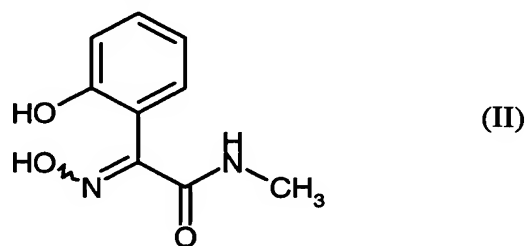


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

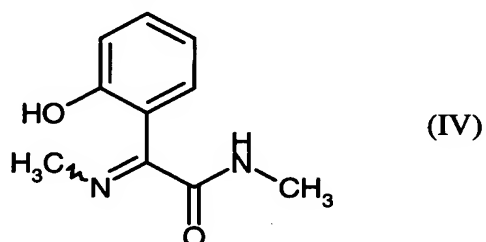
The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (canceled)

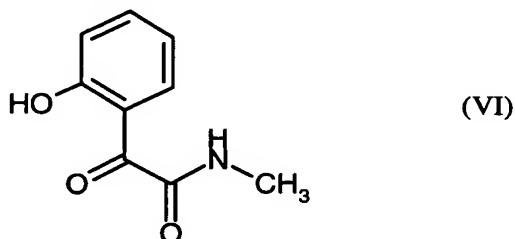
Claim 2 (previously presented): A compound of the formula (II)



Claim 3 (previously presented): A process for preparing the compound of Claim 2 comprising  
reacting the compound of the formula (IV)



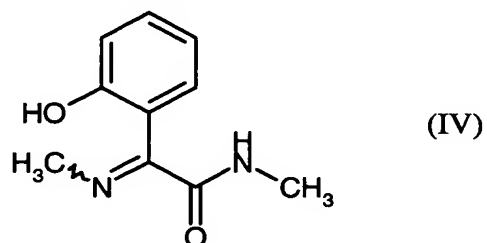
with hydroxylamine or an acid addition complex thereof,  
if appropriate in the presence of a diluent and if appropriate in the presence of a  
buffer medium, or  
reacting the compound of the formula (VI)



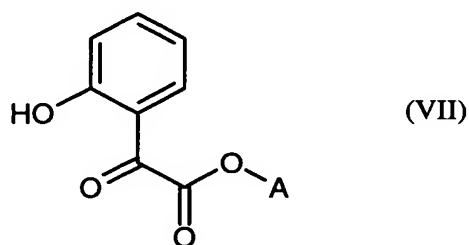
with hydroxylamine or an acid addition complex thereof,

if appropriate in the presence of a diluent and if appropriate in the presence of a buffer medium; and  
collecting the reaction product.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A compound of the formula (IV)

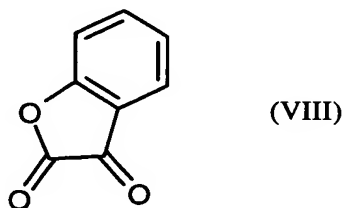


Claim 5 (previously presented): A process for preparing the compound of Claim 4 comprising  
reacting a compound of the formula (VII)



in which


A represents alkyl or optionally substituted aryl,  
with methylamine, if appropriate in the presence of a diluent, or  
reacting the compound of the formula (VIII)




with methylamine, if appropriate in the presence of a diluent; and  
collecting the reaction product.

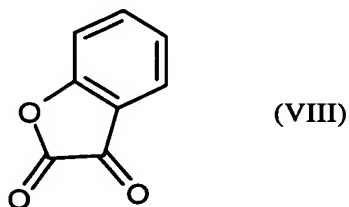
Claim 6 (canceled)

(VI)

CC(=O)C(=O)c1cccc(O)c1

 (VII)

A represents alkyl or optionally substituted aryl, with methylamine, if appropriate in the presence of a diluent, and following the reaction, treating the reaction mixture with an acid, or reacting the compound of the formula (VIII)



**Claims 8-10 (canceled)**